

County, IN. He married LYDIA A. FULLER June 06, 1810 in Bensville, Hastings County, Ontario, Canada. She was born 1795, and died September 1873 in Clay County, IN.

Notes for EZRA H. BEMIS:

Ezra's birth was recorded in Guilford, VT, but his parents were living in Whitingham VT. When Edmund's wife Abigail died (1837) Ezra was living in Terre Haute, IN

More About EZRA H. BEMIS:

Burial: February 1870, BT/PS Cemetery, Posey Twp. Clay County

More About LYDIA A. FULLER:

Burial: September 1873, BT/PS Cemetery, Posey Twp. Clay County

Children of EZRA BEMIS and LYDIA FULLER are:

- i. EZRA HIRAM³ BEMIS. ↓
 - ii. HENRY BEMIS, b. December 30, 1807. *some census records say 1813 which is much more probable*
- ① Notes for HENRY BEMIS:
Henry's birthdate is in question since his birthdate occurred before the mother, Lydia was 13 years old. Ezra's age suggests that he may have had a previous wife.
3. — iii. GEORGE WASHINGTON BEMIS, SR., b. Bet. 1812 - 1813, Vermont; d. 1874, Indiana. *MAY HAVE BEEN 1ST BORN*
 4. iv. ALVA BEMIS, b. 1817.
 - v. JOHN ROBERT BEMIS, b. 1820, Meigs County, Ohio.
 - vi. MARTIN BEMIS, b. 1828.
 - vii. JOSEPHUS BEMIS, b. 1829.
 - viii. LUCINDA BEMIS, b. 1833.
 - ix. ALEXANDER BEMIS, b. 1837.

Generation No. 3

- 3. GEORGE WASHINGTON³ BEMIS, SR. (EZRA H², EDMUND¹) was born Bet. 1812 - 1813 in Vermont, and died 1874 in Indiana. He married PHEBE GIBSON December 22, 1835 in Indiana, daughter of JOHN GIBSON and SUSANNAH. She was born 1816 in Kentucky.
- ①

Notes for GEORGE WASHINGTON BEMIS, SR.:

1840, 1850, 1860 & 1870 Census for Vigo County indicates he lived in Nevins Township in the NE corner of Vigo County, Indiana and was operating a substantial farm. Records suggest that both George W. Bemis, Sr. and the Gibson family were on their farms in Nevins Twp., Vigo County by 1835 since George and Phebe Gibson had met, courted and married on Dec. 22, 1835.

Indiana Marriage Records indicate that George W. "Bemus" married Phebe Gibson on 12-22-1835 in Indiana, (License issued in Vigo County Nov. 29, 1835). The misspelling can be ignored since both the timing of marriage and his known wife check out. The junior George W. Bemis was born May 6, 1838.

George W. Srs.' precise date of death is unknown but his will was recorded in Vigo County, Indiana in 1874. "Bemiss, George W., 1874, Vigo, Bk2, Pg17." George Sr.s will left his estate to wife Phebe and then after her death the estate was to be divided among 6 of the 9 children; sons, Edmond, William and Eli were not mentioned in the will.

Civil War: Four of five of George & Phebe's sons were in the Civil War, for more see "more" re: George Jr., Edmund, Ezra and William.

Verifiable, official records have listed him as Bemis, Bemas, Beamas, Bemus Bemiss, Beamos & Bement.

① Relationship probable - not verified.

Descendants of George W. Bemis, Sr.

REVISED 5-16-2000

Generation No. 1

1. GEORGE W.¹ BEMIS, SR. was born 1812 in Vermont, and died Unknown in Unknown. He married PHEBE GIBSON December 22, 1835 in Indiana. She was born 1816 in Kentucky.

Notes for GEORGE W. BEMIS, SR.:

1850, 1860 & 1870 Census for Vigo County indicates he lived in Nevins Township in the NE corner of Vigo County, Indiana and was operating a substantial farm.

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Verifiable, official records have listed him as Bemis, Bemas, Beamas, Bemus Bemiss, Beamos & Bement.

Children of GEORGE BEMIS and PHEBE GIBSON are:

- i. EDMOND² BEMIS, b. 1837.

Notes for EDMOND BEMIS:

According to the Vigo County, Indiana 1850 census records, Edmond was 13 years old, i.e. born in 1837, it is deemed probable that he was the eldest child since his parents were married Dec. 22, 1835. Also, other Bemis ancestors commonly spell the name Edmund, Edmond may have just been the Census T. way of spelling it.

- 2. ii. GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR., b. May 06, 1838, Indiana (Per son Levi Bemis' Statement In Silas' Death Cert.); d. September 12, 1898, Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County.
- iii. WILLIAM BEMIS, b. 1840, Indiana.
- iv. ELI W. BEMIS, b. 1842, Indiana.
- v. EZRA BEMIS, b. 1847, Indiana.

Notes for EZRA BEMIS:

Ezra appears to be the only son living at home in 1870; his father made him the executor of his 1874 last will and testament.

- vi. MARY BEMIS, b. 1849, Indiana.
- vii. CATHARINA BEMIS, b. 1850, Indiana.

Notes for CATHARINA BEMIS:

Judging from the order that children were granted shares of their father's will Catharina was according to the will called Aley C. Bemis; it is speculative but her full name may have been Alexandra Catharina Bemis

- viii. MALINDA C. BEMIS, b. 1853, Indiana.
- ix. SAMANTHA BEMIS, b. 1856, Indiana.

2. **GEORGE W.² BEMIS, JR. (GEORGE W.¹)** was born May 06, 1838 in Indiana (Per son Levi Bemis' Statement In Silas' Death Cert.), and died September 12, 1898 in Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County. He married **LUCINDA E. RICHTER** March 20, 1864 in Vigo County, Indiana (Terre Haute is County Seat). She was born June 28, 1843 in Indiana (Per Levi Bemis Statement), and died February 11, 1906 in Shelby Co., Illinois;.

Notes for **GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR.**:

Both George W. Bemis and Lucinda E. Richter resided in Indiana in 1860 according to the 1860 Census Records.

Silas' Death Certificate (May 16, 1920) confirms that his father and mother were George Bemis, Jr. and Lucinda Richter. Signed "Informant" was Levi Bemis, Shelby Co.

Mrs. Phyllis Selby of Kokomo, IN furnished birthdate, not yet verified but consistent with 1860 Vigo Co. Ind. Census, she also furnished his death date and burial information which is probable but not yet cross confirmed on this date of 11-30-99.

According to the Last Will & Testament of his father, George W. Bemis, Jr. was living in Sullivan County in September of 1874. George was granted a successional one-sixth of his father's estate.

More About **GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR.**:

Burial: Abt. September 15, 1898, Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County

Notes for **LUCINDA E. RICHTER**:

Lucinda's Tombstone says she died on 2-11-1906 but her Death Cert. says it was on 2-14-1906 (Shelby Co. Recording) It also revealed that she had lived in IL for 28 years meaning she came in about 1878 when Levi was only 13 years old; apparently George W. Bemis Jr. accompanied her on the westward move but that is not confirmed yet except by probable Greenup IL, Cumberland Co. burial information.

The epitaph on Lucinda's gravestone reads: "She's Gone She's Left this World of Woe for Reunions of Eternal Love"

Late Revelation: It was not until April, 2000 that our line of Bemis' in Grandfather Levi's generation was expanded by revelations in the Shelby County 1900 Census. James Bemis discovered George (George III), Ezra and Lillie Pearl; Their mother, Lucinda, was listed as head of household. I, Walt Bemis, should not have been so surprised since my Dad, John Bemis, mentioned that there were "some other relatives" living in the area when he was growing up. In 1920 C. Records, the above 3 were still living in Shelby County and their ages were 46, 43 & 35 respectively.

More About **LUCINDA E. RICHTER**:

Burial: Abt. February 14, 1906, Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

Marriage Notes for **GEORGE BEMIS** and **LUCINDA RICHTER**:

The Marriage of Lucinda Richter and George W. Bemis on March 20, 1864 was later compiled into an indexed record as a WPA project in Vigo County, Indiana. On January 31, 1865, their first child, Levi Bemis was born after about 10 months and 10 days after they were married.

Children of **GEORGE BEMIS** and **LUCINDA RICHTER** are:

3.
 - i. **LEVI³ BEMIS**, b. January 31, 1865, Brazil, Indiana, Clay County; d. June 13, 1935, Sigel, Illinois Buried at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery.
 - ii. **SILAS BEMIS**, b. January 23, 1867, Brazil, Indiana; d. May 16, 1920, Shelby Co. Illinois.

Notes for **SILAS BEMIS**:

Silas' date of death and burial site at Ramsey Cemetery are verified by a death certificate filed in Shelby County.

More About SILAS BEMIS:

Burial: Abt. May 19, 1920, The Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

- iii. MARVIN BEMIS, b. 1871, Brazil, Indiana; d. 1918, Illinois.

More About MARVIN BEMIS:

Burial: 1918, Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

- iv. GEORGE BEMIS III, b. 1874, Indiana.

Notes for GEORGE BEMIS III:

Regarding the name of George Bemis III, the designation, for the time being at least, is to keep the three successive generations of George Bemis' straight; at no time have official records noted: Sr., Jr., or the III.

I find it interesting that George Bemis III received his name in the same year, 1874, that his father, George B. Jr., was mentioned in his grandfather's (George B. Sr.'s) will; which happened first???

- v. EZRA BEMIS, b. 1876, Indiana.
- vi. LILLIE PEARL BEMIS, b. 1883, Illinois.

Notes for LILLIE PEARL BEMIS:

1900 Shelby County IL Census records indicate that she was born in IN but other more precise records indicate that her mother, Lucinda, had migrated with family in 1878.

Generation No. 3

3. LEVI³ BEMIS (*GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹*) was born January 31, 1865 in Brazil, Indiana, Clay County, and died June 13, 1935 in Sigel, Illinois Buried at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. He married KATHERINE SALZMAN September 22, 1897 in Shelbyville, Illinois, daughter of WILLIAM SALZMAN and ANNA BAUER. She was born April 04, 1872 in Neoga, Illinois in Cumberland County, and died April 06, 1947 in Texas.

More About KATHERINE SALZMAN:

Burial: April 1947, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County) Lutheran Cemetery

Children of LEVI BEMIS and KATHERINE SALZMAN are:

- 4. i. JOHN AUGUST⁴ BEMIS, b. March 16, 1899, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 10, 1977, Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.
- 5. ii. WILLIS BEMIS, b. July 26, 1900, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 01, 1974, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County).
- iii. MASON BEMIS, b. December 10, 1903, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 26, 1981, Little Rock, Arkansas; m. RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER; b. August 10, 1912, Cumberland County, Ill.; d. September 21, 1979, Vallejo, California.

Notes for MASON BEMIS:

Mason never had children but his wife's 2nd husband and her did.

Notes for RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

After divorcing Mason Bemis, Ruby Speer married Roscoe Glenn "Bud" Bates and they had a daughter named Patricia Ann b. November 3, 1937.

Bud Bates was born in Charleston, IL on Aug. 2, 1898;

Ruby married several more times after Mr. Bates passed away.

More About RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

Divorced Mason Bemis: Abt. 1937, Humboldt, Illinois

- 6. iv. LEE (LEVI) BEMIS, b. June 23, 1907.
- v. ARTHUR BEMIS, b. October 14, 1909, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); m. RUTH UNKNOWN.

Notes for ARTHUR BEMIS:

Baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sigel Illinois; turned 90 on October 14, 1999,
HAPPY 90th!

Generation No. 4

4. JOHN AUGUST⁴ BEMIS (*LEV³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹*) was born March 16, 1899 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 10, 1977 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County. He married HULDA CHRISTINE SPEER December 21, 1926 in Illinois, daughter of ADOLPH SPEER and EMMA DAHNKE. She was born May 13, 1908 in Neoga, Illinois, Cumberland County, and died March 30, 1962 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.

Children of JOHN BEMIS and HULDA SPEER are:

7. i. JOHN ARNOLD⁵ BEMIS, b. May 29, 1928, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 23, 1997, Kauai, Hawaii.
8. ii. WALTER P. BEMIS, SR., b. July 10, 1930, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County).

5. WILLIS⁴ BEMIS (*LEV³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹*) was born July 26, 1900 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 01, 1974 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County). He married EMMA H. BLIEVERNICHT December 22, 1924 in Dieterich, IL, Effingham County, daughter of HENRY BLIEVERNICHT and BERTHA FORTHMAN. She was born July 16, 1901 in Dieterich, IL, and died June 09, 1980 in Sigel, Illinois, Shelby County.

Child of WILLIS BEMIS and EMMA BLIEVERNICHT is:

- i. JAMES⁵ BEMIS, b. October 29, 1932, Sigel, Shelby Co. Illinois.

6. LEE (LEVI)⁴ BEMIS (*LEV³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹*) was born June 23, 1907. He married JEAN REECE August 25, 1932. She was born December 10, 1915.

Notes for LEE (LEVI) BEMIS:

Mr. Lee Bemis was baptized and confirmed in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sigel Illinois. Lee turned 92 on June 23, 1999, We wish him many more years.
Happy 92nd birthday in June 1999.

Lee and Jean had three children, Robert, William and Ruth Ann, both William and Ruth Ann experienced divorce.

Notes for JEAN REECE:

On December 10, 1999 Jean Reece Bemis will be a young woman of only 84 and we all wish many, many more happy and healthy birthdays (12-1999).

Children of LEE BEMIS and JEAN REECE are:

9. i. ROBERT⁵ BEMIS, b. October 07, 1933.
10. ii. WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, b. January 19, 1937.
11. iii. RUTH ANN BEMIS, b. December 15, 1941.

Generation No. 5

7. JOHN ARNOLD⁵ BEMIS (*JOHN AUGUST⁴, LEV³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹*) was born May 29, 1928 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died December 23, 1997 in Kauai, Hawaii. He married MIDGE GRAHAM October 24, 1954 in Woodland, CA. She was born October 26, 1923 in Alabama, and died December 12, 1988 in Vallejo, California.

Child of JOHN BEMIS and MIDGE GRAHAM is:

- i. PATRICIA⁶ GRAHAM-DEXTER.

Notes for PATRICIA GRAHAM-DEXTER:

Patricia was the daughter of Midge Graham and John A. Bemis' stepdaughter.

8. WALTER P.⁵ BEMIS, SR. (*JOHN AUGUST*⁴, *LEV*³, *GEORGE W.*², *GEORGE W.*¹) was born July 10, 1930 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County). He married ROSEMARY ALICE WILSON November 18, 1950 in Vallejo, California, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, daughter of ROBERT WILSON and EVELYN STROUD. She was born July 23, 1934 in Auburn, California (Placer County).

Children of WALTER BEMIS and ROSEMARY WILSON are:

- i. PAULA ANN⁶ BEMIS, b. September 11, 1951, San Francisco, CA at Letterman Army Hospital; m. KEVIN JOHN PEICHEL, May 18, 1996, Petaluma, California, Open Door Christian Church; b. January 12, 1960, Sleepy Eye Minnesota.

More About PAULA ANN BEMIS:

B.S. Degree: Chico State University, Chico, CA

More About KEVIN JOHN PEICHEL:

B.S. Psychology: May 08, 1998, North Central Bib. Coll. Minn. MN

Minor Study: May 08, 1998, Pastoral Studies, Cum Laude

- ii. LESLI JANEL BEMIS, b. April 09, 1954, Redding, California; m. WAYNE PEARSON, May 01, 1993, Santa Cruz, California, Pasatiempo, Country Club; b. June 16, 1951, California.

More About LESLI JANEL BEMIS:

Dentistry: Bryman College, Sacramento, CA

More About WAYNE PEARSON:

DDS Denistry: College of Pacific, San Francisco, CA

12. iii. WALTER PAUL BEMIS, JR., b. April 25, 1957, Oakland, CA, Alameda County, Providence Hospital.

9. ROBERT⁵ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)*⁴, *LEV*³, *GEORGE W.*², *GEORGE W.*¹) was born October 07, 1933. He married SHERRIE UNKNOWN. She was born January 20, 1936.

Children of ROBERT BEMIS and SHERRIE UNKNOWN are:

- i. RICHARD⁶ BEMIS, b. October 06, 1957.
- ii. RUSSELL BEMIS, b. January 10, 1960.
- iii. ROGER BEMIS, b. February 08, 1964.
- iv. CHERYL BEMIS, b. November 09, 1965; m. RODNEY HUNTER.

10. WILLIAM LEVI⁵ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)*⁴, *LEV*³, *GEORGE W.*², *GEORGE W.*¹) was born January 19, 1937. He married (1) VICKY April 24, 1982 in First Wife was Trudy, mother of William's Children. He married (2) VICKY April 24, 1982.

Notes for VICKY:

Vicky was William's second wife, his first wife Trudy is the mother of shown children.

Children of WILLIAM BEMIS and VICKY are:

13. i. SANDRA TONSING⁶ BEMIS, b. April 15, 1960.
- ii. WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, JR., b. June 24, 1964.

Notes for WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, JR.:

William Levi Bemis, Jr. was nicknamed "Stormy"

11. RUTH ANN⁵ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)*⁴, *LEV*³, *GEORGE W.*², *GEORGE W.*¹) was born December 15, 1941. She married (1) BOBBY JONES in Father of Children is Doug Duffey, the 1st Husband. She married (2) BOBBY JONES.

Notes for RUTH ANN BEMIS:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann Bemis current husband 5/15/2000

Notes for BOBBY JONES:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann's present husband.

Children of RUTH BEMIS and BOBBY JONES are:

- i. TERRI⁶ DUFFEY, b. February 07, 1961.
14. ii. MICHAEL DUFFEY, b. July 25, 1965.
- iii. CINDY DUFFEY, b. November 19, 1967.

Generation No. 6

12. WALTER PAUL⁶ BEMIS, JR. (WALTER P.⁵, JOHN AUGUST⁴, LEVI³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹) was born April 25, 1957 in Oakland, CA, Alameda County, Providence Hospital. He married ROBIN LYN BRANT January 03, 1981 in Mill Valley, CA, Marin County, 1st Baptist Church, daughter of KENNETH BRANT and MAUREEN CALLAGY. She was born June 17, 1960 in Greenbrae, California, Marin County.

More About WALTER PAUL BEMIS, JR.:

Attend. Seminary: Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, Mill V.

B. A. Degree: San Francisco State University

Ordained Pastor: Church of the Open Door, S. Rafael, CA

Children of WALTER BEMIS and ROBIN BRANT are:

- i. SAMUEL DAVID RILEY⁷ BEMIS, b. May 12, 1994, Springdale, Arkansas.
- ii. ISAAC JOSHUA CHRISTOPHER BEMIS, b. February 17, 2000, Syracuse, New York.

13. SANDRA TONSING⁶ BEMIS (WILLIAM LEVI⁵, LEE (LEVI)⁴, LEVI³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹) was born April 15, 1960. She married LOREN MICHAEL TONSING.

Children of SANDRA BEMIS and LOREN TONSING are:

- i. LOREN MICHAEL⁷ TONSING, JR., b. September 15, 1978.
- ii. STEVEN TONSING, b. September 12, 1980.
- iii. ERIC TONSING, b. September 20, 1982.

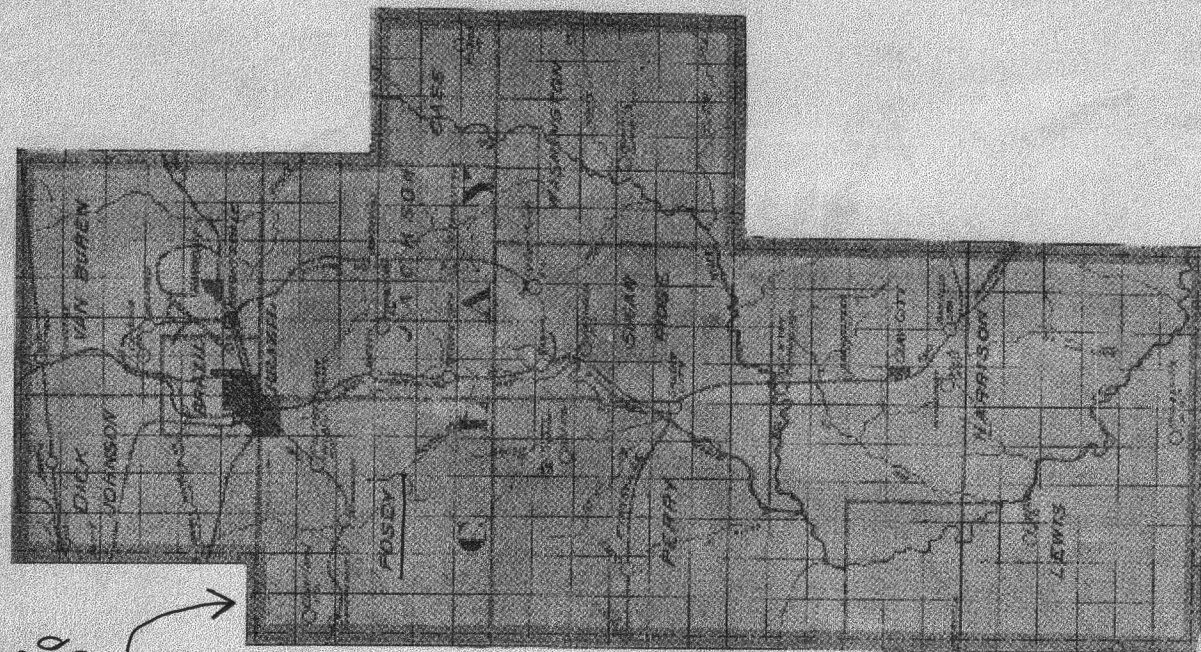
14. MICHAEL⁶ DUFFEY (RUTH ANN⁵ BEMIS, LEE (LEVI)⁴, LEVI³, GEORGE W.², GEORGE W.¹) was born July 25, 1965. He married PATTY.

Child of MICHAEL DUFFEY and PATTY is:

- i. JENNIFER⁷ DUFFEY, b. June 04, 1982.

ENCYCLOPEDIA DIRECTORY.

The Population of Clay County in 1830, was 1,616; in 1840, 5,567; in 1850, 7,800; in 1860, 12,121; in 1870, 19,084; in 1880, 25,839, and in 1890, 30,497. 360 square miles.



MAP OF CLAY COUNTY.

Bemis Family

Walter P. Bemis
6061 Dolores Dr.
Rohnert Park CA 94928

January 18, 2001

I hope you had a happy holiday season. I was on vacation between Christmas and New Year and have since had a cold so I am just now getting to your request of December 11. I checked the grantor/grantee index to Vigo County deeds from 1818 to 1860 but only found one entry under the name Bemis. On 10 September 1840 George W. Bemis sold land in Section 1 Township 12 N Range 8 W to Joseph Shull. I didn't find any mention of when he bought that land or any reference to Ezra. I also searched under the name Gibson and found several Gibson deeds for land in Section 30 Township 13 N. range 7 W. I also found that during the 1850's John Gibson bought land in the SE ¼ Section 31 Township 13 N Range 7 W and Eleazer Gibson sold land in the SE ¼ SW ¼ Section 31 Township 13 N. Range 7 W. I thought that the land might have been obtained by a grant from the federal government so I also checked the entries under "United States" but still didn't find any grant to a Bemis.

Our microfilmed Vigo County deed records are indexed by name but not by the location of the land. I called Linda Jeffries in the clerk's office to see if she knew of any such records in the courthouse. (The deed records are actually in the recorder's office, but Linda is very knowledgeable about the old records.) Unfortunately the old records are stored in the courthouse attic and are not in very good order, so Linda wasn't able to locate the Nevins Township plat book, which she thought might help. She suggested you try the Plat Map Office, 131 Oak St., Terre Haute IN 47807, or the Vigo/Wade Abstract Co., 321 Wabash Ave., Terre Haute IN 47807.

It occurred to me that the records might be available from the Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office records web site. Sure enough! When I checked there, I found that George Washington Bemis "of Clay County" bought land in the SW ¼ SW ¼ Sec. 31 Township 13N Range 7 W at the Vincennes land office on 18 March 1837. He bought land in the NW ¼ SW ¼ Sec 31 Township 13 N range 7 W on 1 Sept. 1838. That doesn't help prove whether Ezra was George's father, but if you are interested, the web site for the land records is at www.glorerecords.blm.gov/ You may order certified copies of the land patents from them. I also searched for Ezra Bemis and found that he bought land in the NW ¼ NE ¼ Sec 30 Township 13 N range 6 W (Clay County) on 1 Oct 1840. I am sending printouts of images of the land patents. I wish I had thought of the web site sooner!

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

WALTER P. BEMIS

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian
Vigo County Public Library
One Liberty Square
Terre Haute, IN 47807

1-9-01

December 11, 2000

*Linda Jeffries will call me back in
a couple days*

*Rec'd 12-18-00
5A SE
transfer & Plat Books Nevins
Abstract office
Plat Map office*

Dear Nancy

Life has been so busy that I have not made as much progress as I had planned to over the last several months. I have filled in a little more of the family tree per the attached genealogy report, which may be helpful to you as a quick reference. I still have my primary problem, verifying that George Bemis Sr. is Ezra Bemis' son.

The completion of Ezra Bemis' generation, ^{↑ ACTUALLY, HIS CHILDREN'S GENERATION} b. August 16, 1783 in Guilford VT and d. February 1870 in Clay County IN, was aided by the contribution of a man that is also descended from Ezra Bemis. He had also included "George Washington Bemis" (Sr). The problem is that I found that his names were not based on any factual connection. I believe that most of the names are correct, with the order still in doubt, etc., we know that the last two names are correct because they have 1850 Census verification.

I have requested some information from the Federal Govt. re: his being in the War of 1812 but when I get it and what information it will provide are both questionable. I am hoping that you might be able to help me again as you have so well in the past; specifically, can you find out who the previous owner was of the property that George Sr. lived on for many years. That property in Nevins Township is described as the W 1/2 of the SW1/4, Section 31, T13N, R7W, see attached. If it was deeded from Ezra to George that will be my best evidence. Some of the soldiers serving in the War of 1812 received as much as 320 acres of "bounty" land and Ezra could have given it to George Sr. Census records show that George Sr. was there by 1840 but he married Phebe Gibson in 1835 so he may have acquired it in 1835 or sooner. Since we know that the Gibson property surrounded George's, he may have acquired it from the Gibsons?? The history of Nevins Twp. indicated many Kentucky settlers like the Gibsons, many Kentucky immigrants came from Virginia via bounty land incentives provided re: service in the Revolutionary War. Some areas in Indiana were set aside for redemption of bounty land, was Nevins Twp. part of that?? Anyway that is not very important.

If you get some time after the Holidays I would really appreciate it if you could check on the land transfer for me. Thanking you in advance and wishing you a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Walter P. Bemis Sr.

6061 DOLORES DRIVE ROHNERT PARK, CA 94928 707-586-3040

Bemis, Geo W to Joseph Shull - 10 Sept 1840 Sec 1+12 R 8 BR 8 p 345

Found Gibson deeds for Sec 30 T13N R7W

Gibson, John from Wm McBride - 2 June 1856 - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 31 T13N
R7W BR 20 p 65

Jno Gibson from And. M. Stewart 1 April 1857 - NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 31 T13N
R7W

Gibson, Cleazer to Wm H. Carpenter - 5 Aug 1857 - SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 31 T13N
R7W

Descendants of Edmund Bemis

Generation No. 1

1. EDMUND¹ BEMIS was born 1746 in Mass., and died July 16, 1829 in Whitingham, VT at age 83. He married ABIGAIL GILBERT March 12, 1778 in Leicester, MA. She was born 1751, and died February 06, 1837 in Whitingham, VT at age 86.

Notes for EDMUND BEMIS:

The primary sources of information for Edmund, Abigail and their children was from a microfilm collection furnished by the Church of LDS, "Early Vermont and into the mid 1800's" and from an abstract of "Revolutionary War Pension Files". The first four named children with the exact birthdates came from the microfilm records; the other children from the pension files. The pension file information involved "leaving children" after the 1837 death date of Abigail.

More About EDMUND BEMIS:

Burial: 1829, Whitingham, VT (Probably)

More About ABIGAIL GILBERT:

Burial: 1837, Whitingham, VT

Children of EDMUND BEMIS and ABIGAIL GILBERT are:

- i. JOHN² BEMIS, b. July 02, 1780.
2. ii. EZRA H. BEMIS, b. August 16, 1783, Guilford, VT; d. February 1870, Clay County, IN.
- iii. EDMUND BEMIS, b. April 20, 1785; m. ESTHER EAMES, October 06, 1811, Whitingham, VT; b. 1792; d. December 24, 1847, (died at age 55).

Marriage Notes for EDMUND BEMIS and ESTHER EAMES:

The officiating justice of the peace was Amos Brown, Town of Whitingham, VT

- iv. GUILBERT BEMIS, b. October 11, 1792.
- v. POLLY BEMIS, m. — ELLSWORTH.

Notes for POLLY BEMIS:

Polly was married to a Mr. Ellsworth of Bennington, VT

- vi. CALEB BEMIS.

Notes for CALEB BEMIS:

Caleb and Edmund were living in Whitingham during 1837.

- vii. JAMES G. BEMIS.

Notes for JAMES G. BEMIS:

James was in Rowe, MA during 1837.

- viii. ABIGAIL BEMIS, m. — MORGAN.

Notes for ABIGAIL BEMIS:

Abigail had become Abigail Morgan of Wayne in Dupage, IL by 1837.

- ix. CATHERINE BEMIS, m. — EDDY.

Notes for CATHERINE BEMIS:

By 1837 Catherine had become Catherine Eddy of Goshen in Hampshire City, MA; in 1853 a Henry Eddy was the administrator of the widow's estate in Goshen, MA, it is not known if Henry was related.

Generation No. 2

2. EZRA H² BEMIS (*EDMUND*¹) was born August 16, 1783 in Guilford, VT, and died February 1870 in Clay County, IN. He married LYDIA A. FULLER June 06, 1810 in Bellsville, Hastings County, Ontario, Canada. She was born 1795, and died September 1873 in Clay County, IN.

Notes for EZRA H. BEMIS:

Ezra's birth was recorded in Guilford, VT, but his parents were living in Whitingham VT. When Edmund's wife Abigail died (1837) Ezra was living in Terre Haute, IN

More About EZRA H. BEMIS:

Burial: February 1870, BT/PS Cemetery, Posey Twp. Clay County

More About LYDIA A. FULLER:

Burial: September 1873, BT/PS Cemetery, Posey Twp. Clay County

Children of EZRA BEMIS and LYDIA FULLER are:

- i. EZRA HIRAM³ BEMIS. ↓
 - ii. HENRY BEMIS, b. December 30, (1807). *some census records say 1813 which is much more probable*
- ① Notes for HENRY BEMIS:
Henry's birthdate is in question since his birthdate occurred before the mother, Lydia was 13 years old. Ezra's age suggests that he may have had a previous wife.
3. — iii. GEORGE WASHINGTON BEMIS, SR., b. Bet. 1812 - 1813, Vermont; d. 1874, Indiana. *MAY HAVE BEEN 1ST BORN*
 4. — iv. ALVA BEMIS, b. 1817.
 - v. JOHN ROBERT BEMIS, b. 1820, Meigs County, Ohio.
 - vi. MARTIN BEMIS, b. 1828.
 - vii. JOSEPHUS BEMIS, b. 1829.
 - viii. LUCINDA BEMIS, b. 1833.
 - ix. ALEXANDER BEMIS, b. 1837.

Generation No. 3

3. GEORGE WASHINGTON³ BEMIS, SR. (*EZRA H², EDMUND*¹) was born Bet. 1812 - 1813 in Vermont, and died 1874 in Indiana. He married PHEBE GIBSON December 22, 1835 in Indiana, daughter of JOHN GIBSON and

① SUSANNAH. She was born 1816 in Kentucky.

Notes for GEORGE WASHINGTON BEMIS, SR.:

1840, 1850, 1860 & 1870 Census for Vigo County indicates he lived in Nevins Township in the NE corner of Vigo County, Indiana and was operating a substantial farm. Records suggest that both George W. Bemis, Sr. and the Gibson family were on their farms in Nevins Twp., Vigo County by 1835 since George and Phebe Gibson had met, courted and married on Dec. 22, 1835.

Indiana Marriage Records indicate that George W. "Bemus" married Phebe Gibson on 12-22-1835 in Indiana, (License issued in Vigo County Nov. 29, 1835). The misspelling can be ignored since both the timing of marriage and his known wife check out. The junior George W. Bemis was born May 6, 1838.

George W. Srs.' precise date of death is unknown but his will was recorded in Vigo County, Indiana in 1874. "Bemiss, George W., 1874, Vigo, Bk2, Pg17." George Sr.s will left his estate to wife Phebe and then after her death the estate was to be divided among 6 of the 9 children; sons, Edmond, William and Eli were not mentioned in the will.

Civil War: Four of five of George & Phebe's sons were in the Civil War, for more see "more" re: George Jr., Edmund, Ezra and William.

Verifiable, official records have listed him as Bemis, Bemas, Beamias, Bemus Bemiss, Beamias & Bement.

① Relationship probable - not verified.

Notes for PHEBE GIBSON:

The preponderance of information says that Phebe was born in Kentucky but one census record indicates Virginia, preliminary studies of the Gibson line indicates that Phebe's ancestors were from Virginia. Many migrations started in Virginia then to Kentucky, then to Indiana and other fertile agricultural states.

According to genealogy studies (re: Family Tree Maker) "many of Kentucky's adult male settlers served in the Revolutionary War (many were Virginians who were granted bounty lands in Kentucky for their service)."

Children of GEORGE BEMIS and PHEBE GIBSON are:

- i. EDMOND⁴ BEMIS, b. Bet. 1836 - 1837.

Notes for EDMOND BEMIS:

According to the Vigo County, Indiana 1850 census records, Edmond was 13 years old, i.e. born in 1837, it is deemed probable that he was the eldest child since his parents were married Dec. 22, 1835. Also, other Bemis ancestors commonly spell the name Edmund, Edmond may have just been the Census T. way of spelling it.

Civil War: Edmond or correctly Edmund Bemis was assigned to Co. F. 13th Indiana Reorganized Reg. Enrolled Oct. 14, 1864 Terre Haute Ind; Mustered Dec. 24, 1864 in Terre Haute and was Mustered Out Sept 5, 1865, in Goldsboro North Carolina. Age 28, Nativity -Jackson Occupation: Farmer

5. — ii. GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR., b. May 06, 1838, Indiana (Per son Levi Bemis' Statement In Silas' Death Cert.); d. September 12, 1898, Greenup, IL.
- iii. WILLIAM BEMIS, b. 1840, Indiana.

Notes for WILLIAM BEMIS:

Civil War: William "Bemus" was assigned to Co. K 31st Ind. Reg.; Enrolled - September 5, 1861, in Terre Haute; Mustered In Sept. 20 1861, in Terre Haute; Age 21, eyes-hazel, hair -dark, Height-5' 10", Complexion-dark, nativity-Vigo County, Occupation, farmer; discharged - Sept. 4, 1863 - Indianapolis IN - listed on surgeons's certificate of disability.

- iv. ELI W. BEMIS, b. 1842, Indiana.
- v. EZRA BEMIS, b. 1847, Indiana; m. CATHARINE DOTY (BRUCE), December 29, 1893, Cumberland County, IL; b. Arkansas; d. January 23, 1902, Cumberland County, IL.

Notes for EZRA BEMIS:

Ezra appears to be the only son living at home in 1870; his father made him the executor of his 1874 last will and testament.

Cumberland County IL Records note that Ezra @ age 44 on Dec. 29, 1893, married Catharine Doty (Bruce), it was his first marriage, her 3rd, she was from Arkansas. Census Records math indicates that he would have been 46 in 1893 but these records are commonly a year or so off.

Civil War: Ezra Bemis was assigned to Co. F, 11th Ind. Reg.; Enrolled in Feb 28, 1865, in Terre Haute; Mustered in - Feb 28, 1864 in Terre Haute; Age 18, Blue eyes, dark hair, 5' 7", fair complexion, Nativity, Vigo County, IN, Mustered out July 26 1865, in Baltimore, Maryland.

Notes for CATHARINE DOTY (BRUCE):

Records in Cumberland Co. IL indicate that she was a widow when she died.

- vi. MARY BEMIS, b. 1849, Indiana.
- vii. CATHARINA BEMIS, b. 1850, Indiana.

Notes for CATHARINA BEMIS:

Judging from the order that children were granted shares of their father's will Catharina was according to the will called Aley C. Bemis; it is speculative but her full name may have been Alexandra Catharina Bemis

- viii. MALINDA C. BEMIS, b. 1853, Indiana.
- ix. SAMANTHA BEMIS, b. 1856, Indiana.

4. JOHN ROBERT³ BEMIS (*EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born 1820 in Meigs County, Ohio. He married PRICILLA. She was born 1824 in Tennessee, and died Bet. 1850 - 1860 in Indiana, Parke Co. Jackson TWP,.

Notes for JOHN ROBERT BEMIS:

By his second wife, Emaline, he had Abraham Lincoln Bemis, Percilla Bemis, Cora Alice Bemis and Mary E. Bemis.

Notes for PRICILLA:

Pricilla was John Robert Bemis' first wife and they had Winfield Scott Bemis, Milly A. Bemis & Lydia M. Bemis

More About PRICILLA:

Burial: Bemis Cemetery

Children of JOHN BEMIS and PRICILLA are:

6. i. WINFIELD SCOTT⁴ BEMIS, b. 1846, Clay County, IN; d. January 13, 1870, Parke County, IN.
- ii. MILLY A BEMIS.
- iii. LYDIA M. BEMIS.

Generation No. 4

5. GEORGE W.⁴ BEMIS, JR. (*GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born May 06, 1838 in Indiana (Per son Levi Bemis' Statement In Silas' Death Cert.), and died September 12, 1898 in Greenup, IL. He married LUCINDA E. RICHTER March 20, 1864 in Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana, daughter of HENRY RICHTER and BARBARA. She was born June 28, 1843 in Indiana (Per Levi Bemis Statement), and died February 11, 1906 in Shelby Co., Illinois;.

Notes for GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR.:

Both George W. Bemis and Lucinda E. Richter resided in Indiana in 1860 according to the 1860 Census Records.

Silas' Death Certificate (May 16, 1920) confirms that his father and mother were George Bemis, Jr. and Lucinda Richter. Signed "Informant" was Levi Bemis, Shelby Co.

Mrs. Phyllis Selby of Kokomo, IN furnished birthdate, not yet verified but consistent with 1860 Vigo Co. Ind. Census, she also furnished his death date and burial information which is probable but not yet cross confirmed on this date of 11-30-99.

According to the Last Will & Testament of his father, George W. Bemis, Jr. was living in Sullivan County in September of 1874. George was granted a successional one-sixth of his father's estate.

The Civil War: In 1862 enlisted and was assigned to Company "G" 78th Indiana Regiment, He enrolled on Aug. 4, 1862 in Brazil Ind. by Capt. Sanders and was mustered August 4, 1862 in Indianapolis, by Col. Simonson, George was 24.

More About GEORGE W. BEMIS, JR.:

Burial: Abt. September 15, 1898, Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County

Notes for LUCINDA E. RICHTER:

Lucinda lived just about a mile up the road from where the Bemis' lived, by 1864 they had met (George Jr.) and were married.

Lucinda's Tombstone says she died on 2-11-1906 but her Death Cert. says it was on 2-14-1906 (Shelby Co. Recording) It also revealed that she had lived in IL for 28 years meaning she came in about 1878 when Levi was only 13 years old; apparently George W. Bemis Jr. accompanied her on the westward move but that is not confirmed yet except by probable Greenup IL, Cumberland Co. burial information.

The epitaph on Lucinda's gravestone reads: "She's Gone She's Left this World of Woe for Reunions of Eternal Love"

Late Revelation: It was not until April, 2000 that our line of Bemis' in Grandfather Levi's generation was expanded by revelations in the Shelby County 1900 Census. James Bemis discovered that Lucinda was listed as "head of household" with sons Silas, Marvin, George (George III), Ezra and daughter Lillie Pearl. In 1920 C. Records, Silas, George III, Ezra and Pearl were still living in Shelby County and their ages were 53, 46, 43 & 35 respectively. According to my wife, Rosemary, my father, John Bemis repeatedly said that some of the relatives of the family that he knew of when he was growing up, were step children, my father would have been 21 in 1920.

More About LUCINDA E. RICHTER:

Burial: February 16, 1906, Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

Marriage Notes for GEORGE BEMIS and LUCINDA RICHTER:

The Marriage of Lucinda Richter and George W. Bemis on March 20, 1864 occurred at the Vigo County Court House with Justice of the Peace George W. Moreland officiating. Amateur genealogist WPB first became aware of this marriage from compiled and indexed records that was a WPA project in Vigo County, INdiana. On January 31, 1865, their first child, Levi Bemis was born after about 10 months and 10 days after they were married.

Children of GEORGE BEMIS and LUCINDA RICHTER are:

7. i. LEVI⁵ BEMIS, b. January 31, 1865, Brazil, Indiana, Clay County; d. June 13, 1935, Sigel, Illinois Buried at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery.
- ii. SILAS BEMIS, b. January 23, 1867, Brazil, Indiana; d. May 16, 1920, Shelby Co. Illinois.

Notes for SILAS BEMIS:

Silas' date of death and burial site at Ramsey Cemetery are verified by a death certificate filed in Shelby County.

In the 1920 Shelby Co. IL Census Silas was listed as head of household with brothers George and Ezra and sister Pearl as occupants. The census taker must have visited Silas just before he died in May of 1920.

More About SILAS BEMIS:

Burial: Abt. May 19, 1920, The Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

- iii. MARVIN BEMIS, b. 1871, Brazil, Indiana; d. 1918, Illinois.

Notes for MARVIN BEMIS:

Marvin was listed as a single head of household in the 1910 Shelby Co. Sigel Township in IL.

More About MARVIN BEMIS:

Burial: 1918, Ramsey Cemetery near Sigel & Effingham, IL

- iv. GEORGE BEMIS III, b. 1874, Indiana.

Notes for GEORGE BEMIS III:

Regarding the name of George Bemis III, the designation, for the time being at least, is to keep the three successive generations of George Bemis' straight; at no time have official records noted: Sr., Jr., or the III.

I find it interesting that George Bemis III received his name in the same year, 1874, that his father, George B. Jr., was mentioned in his grandfather's (George B. Sr.'s) will; which happened first???

In 1910 Shelby Co. Census records George III was listed as head of household with brother Ezra and Sister Pearl part of the household. George III may have been a stepchild.

- v. EZRA BEMIS, b. 1876, Indiana.

Notes for EZRA BEMIS:

Ezra may have been a stepchild.

- vi. LILLIE PEARL BEMIS, b. 1883, Illinois.

Notes for LILLIE PEARL BEMIS:

1900 Shelby County IL Census records indicate that she was born in IN but other more precise records indicate that her mother, Lucinda, had migrated with family in 1878.

Lillie may have been a stepchild.

6. WINFIELD SCOTT⁴ BEMIS (*JOHN ROBERT³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born 1846 in Clay County, IN, and died January 13, 1870 in Parke County, IN. He married RACHEL SANDERS December 12, 1861 in Parke County, IN.

Notes for WINFIELD SCOTT BEMIS:

Winfield served in the Civil War; Enlisted Feb 13, 1865 and was discharged on Sept 27, 1865. (Company H 149th Indiana Regiment, Mustered Out in Nashville)

Winfield's wife, Rachel Sanders, was the sister to Alexander Sanders who married Eliza Jane Bemis, daughter of uncle Henry Bemis. (David Gregg obtained the pictures of Rachel and Henry)

Children of WINFIELD BEMIS and RACHEL SANDERS are:

8. i. JOHN ROBERT⁵ BEMIS, b. February 22, 1864; d. January 18, 1933, Vigo County, IN.
ii. ELIZABETH RACHEL BEMIS, b. October 18, 1866.

Generation No. 5

- 7. LEVI⁵ BEMIS (*GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born January 31, 1865 in Brazil, Indiana, Clay County, and died June 13, 1935 in Sigel, Illinois Buried at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. He married KATHERINE SALZMAN September 22, 1897 in Shelbyville, Illinois, daughter of WILLIAM SALZMAN and ANNA BAUER. She was born April 04, 1872 in Neoga, Illinois in Cumberland County, and died April 06, 1947 in Texas.

More About KATHERINE SALZMAN:

Burial: April 1947, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County) Lutheran Cemetery

Children of LEVI BEMIS and KATHERINE SALZMAN are:

9. i. JOHN AUGUST⁶ BEMIS, b. March 16, 1899, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 10, 1977, Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.
10. ii. WILLIS BEMIS, b. July 26, 1900, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 01, 1974, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County).
iii. MASON BEMIS, b. December 10, 1903, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 26, 1981, Little Rock, Arkansas; m. RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER; b. August 10, 1912, Cumberland County, Ill.; d. September 21, 1979, Vallejo, California.

Notes for MASON BEMIS:

Mason never had children but his wife's 2nd husband and her did.

Notes for RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

After divorcing Mason Bemis, Ruby Speer married Roscoe Glenn "Bud" Bates and they had a daughter named Patricia Ann b. November 3, 1937.

Bud Bates was born in Charleston, IL on Aug. 2, 1898;

Ruby married several more times after Mr. Bates passed away.

More About RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

Divorced Mason Bemis: Abt. 1937, Humboldt, Illinois

11. iv. LEE (LEVI) BEMIS, b. June 23, 1907.
v. ARTHUR BEMIS, b. October 14, 1909, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 01, 2000, Crystal City, MO; m. RUTH ARBOUGH; b. 1906, Unknown; d. 1980, Festus, MO.

Notes for ARTHUR BEMIS:

Baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sigel Illinois; turned 90 on October 14, 1999, HAPPY 90th!

When Arthur left the farm in Sigel, IL he went to Chicago for employment, after some taxi driving he spent his next years there as a high priced hotel barber; he retired from barbering and moved to Festus, MO where he met and married Ruth Arbough, they had no children. Before his last retirement, he sold for Jewell Tea and before his final retirement Arthur was a salesman for Nestles Coffee and Tea Company in and around Festus. Except for the complete dates, the others were estimates.

While Arthur's home was in Festus he died at Jefferson Memorial Hospital in Crystal City, MO, at this time his close friends were brother-in-law, John and his wife Dottie Schneider.

More About ARTHUR BEMIS:

Burial: July 06, 2000, Festus, MO (He was cremated, Vineyard Funeral Home)

Notes for RUTH ARBOUGH:

Arthur married Ruth for their first time in about the 1950's. When she died she had her ashes scattered over her mother's grave in Festus, MO, & when Arthur died he was cremated and his ashes were scattered over Ruth's.

Ruth had a half-brother, John Schneider, of Festus & John was married to Dottie.

More About RUTH ARBOUGH:

Burial: 1980, Festus, MO (she was cremated)

8. JOHN ROBERT⁵ BEMIS (*WINFIELD SCOTT⁴, JOHN ROBERT³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born February 22, 1864, and died January 18, 1933 in Vigo County, IN. He married SARAH CORDELIA YOCUM May 05, 1886 in Parke County, IN. She was born February 05, 1870, and died October 29, 1899 in Died while giving birth to their last child..

More About JOHN ROBERT BEMIS:

Burial: Cress Cemetery

Notes for SARAH CORDELIA YOCUM:

Sarah's sister, Mary Ellen Yocum, married John Henry Sanders, son of Alexander Sanders and Eliza Jane Bemis, Daughter of Henry Bemis.

Children of JOHN BEMIS and SARAH YOCUM are:

- i. GERTRUDE F.⁶ BEMIS, b. September 1889.
12. ii. BERTHA MABLE BEMIS, b. February 06, 1892; d. February 06, 1929.
iii. ROSA BEMIS, b. December 1893.
iv. EDNEY BEMIS.

Notes for EDNEY BEMIS:

Edney Bemis burned up in a fire while a young child.

- v. JOHN ROBERT BEMIS, JR., b. October 24, 1899.

Generation No. 6

9. JOHN AUGUST⁶ BEMIS (*LEV⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born March 16, 1899 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 10, 1977 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County. He married HULDA CHRISTINE SPEER December 21, 1926 in Illinois, daughter of ADOLPH SPEER and EMMA DAHNKE. She was born May 13, 1908 in Neoga, Illinois, Cumberland County, and died March 30, 1962 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.

Children of JOHN BEMIS and HULDA SPEER are:

- i. JOHN ARNOLD⁷ BEMIS, b. May 29, 1928, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 23, 1997, Kauai, Hawaii; m. MIDGE GRAHAM, October 24, 1954, Woodland, CA; b. October 26, 1923, Alabama; d. December 12, 1988, Vallejo, California.
- ii. WALTER P. BEMIS, SR., b. July 10, 1930, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); m. ROSEMARY ALICE WILSON, November 18, 1950, Vallejo, California, St. Paul's Lutheran Church; b. July 23, 1934, Auburn, California (Placer County).

10. WILLIS⁶ BEMIS (*LEVY⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born July 26, 1900 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 01, 1974 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County). He married EMMA H. BLIEVERNICHT December 22, 1924 in Dieterich, IL, Effingham County, daughter of HENRY BLIEVERNICHT and BERTHA FORTHMAN. She was born July 16, 1901 in Dieterich, IL, and died June 09, 1980 in Sigel, Illinois, Shelby County.

Child of WILLIS BEMIS and EMMA BLIEVERNICHT is:

- i. JAMES⁷ BEMIS, b. October 29, 1932, Sigel, Shelby Co. Illinois.

11. LEE (LEVI)⁶ BEMIS (*LEVY⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born June 23, 1907. He married JEAN REECE August 25, 1932. She was born December 10, 1915.

Notes for LEE (LEVI) BEMIS:

Mr. Lee Bemis was baptized and confirmed in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sigel Illinois. Lee turned 92 on June 23, 1999, We wish him many more years.
Happy 92nd birthday in June 1999.

Lee and Jean had three children, Robert, William and Ruth Ann, both William and Ruth Ann experienced divorce.

Notes for JEAN REECE:

On December 10, 1999 Jean Reece Bemis will be a young woman of only 84 and we all wish many, many more happy and healthy birthdays (12-1999).

Children of LEE BEMIS and JEAN REECE are:

- i. ROBERT⁷ BEMIS, b. October 07, 1933; m. SHERRIE UNKNOWN; b. January 20, 1936.
- ii. WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, b. January 19, 1937; m. (1) TRUDY; m. (2) VICKY, April 24, 1982.

Notes for WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS:

William Levi Bemis' first wife was Trudy, the mother of his children.

William Levi Bemis present wife is Vicky

Marriage Notes for WILLIAM BEMIS and TRUDY:

William Bemis married his present wife Vicky on April 24, 1982

- iii. RUTH ANN BEMIS, b. December 15, 1941; m. (1) DOUG DUFFEY; m. (2) BOBBY JONES.

Notes for RUTH ANN BEMIS:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann Bemis current husband, 5/15/2000, Bobby enjoys, plays, writes and records country music.

Notes for BOBBY JONES:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann's present husband.

12. BERTHA MABLE⁶ BEMIS (*JOHN ROBERT⁵, WINFIELD SCOTT⁴, JOHN ROBERT³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born February 06, 1892, and died February 06, 1929. She married JOHN WILLIAM WEBSTER March 03, 1909 in Parke County, IN.

More About BERTHA MABLE BEMIS:

Burial: Bertha died from an abortion.

Children of BERTHA BEMIS and JOHN WEBSTER are:

- i. ANNA⁷ WEBSTER.
- ii. CLARA ELLEN WEBSTER.
- iii. JAMES ROBERT WEBSTER, b. October 13, 1916; m. DOROTHY FIELDS.
- iv. OPAL MAXINE WEBSTER.

Descendants of Levi Bemis

Generation No. 1

1. LEVI⁵ BEMIS (*GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born January 31, 1865 in Brazil, Indiana, Clay County, and died June 13, 1935 in Sigel, Illinois Buried at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery. He married KATHERINE SALZMAN September 22, 1897 in Shelbyville, Illinois, daughter of WILLIAM SALZMAN and ANNA BAUER. She was born April 04, 1872 in Neoga, Illinois in Cumberland County, and died April 06, 1947 in Texas.

More About KATHERINE SALZMAN:

Burial: April 1947, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County) Lutheran Cemetery

Children of LEVI BEMIS and KATHERINE SALZMAN are:

2. i. JOHN AUGUST⁶ BEMIS, b. March 16, 1899, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 10, 1977, Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.
3. ii. WILLIS BEMIS, b. July 26, 1900, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 01, 1974, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County).
- iii. MASON BEMIS, b. December 10, 1903, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 26, 1981, Little Rock, Arkansas; m. RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER; b. August 10, 1912, Cumberland County, Ill.; d. September 21, 1979, Vallejo, California.

Notes for MASON BEMIS:

Mason never had children but his wife's 2nd husband and her did.

Notes for RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

After divorcing Mason Bemis, Ruby Speer married Roscoe Glenn "Bud" Bates and they had a daughter named Patricia Ann b. November 3, 1937.

Bud Bates was born in Charleston, IL on Aug. 2, 1898;

Ruby married several more times after Mr. Bates passed away.

More About RUBY WILHELMINA SPEER:

Divorced Mason Bemis: Abt. 1937, Humboldt, Illinois

4. iv. LEE (LEVI) BEMIS, b. June 23, 1907.
- v. ARTHUR BEMIS, b. October 14, 1909, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. July 01, 2000, Crystal City, MO; m. RUTH ARBOUGH; b. 1906, Unknown; d. 1980, Festus, MO.

Notes for ARTHUR BEMIS:

Baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sigel Illinois; turned 90 on October 14, 1999, HAPPY 90th!

When Arthur left the farm in Sigel, IL he went to Chicago for employment, after some taxi driving he spent his next years there as a high priced hotel barber, he retired from barbering and moved to Festus, MO where he met and married Ruth Arbough, they had no children. Before his last retirement, he sold for Jewell Tea and before his final retirement Arthur was a salesman for Nestles Coffee and Tea Company in and around Festus. Except for the complete dates, the others were estimates.

While Arthur's home was in Festus he died at Jefferson Memorial Hospital in Crystal City, MO, at this time his close friends were brother-in-law, John and his wife Dottie Schneider.

More About ARTHUR BEMIS:

Burial: July 06, 2000, Festus, MO (He was cremated, Vineyard Funeral Home)

Notes for RUTH ARBOUGH:

Arthur married Ruth for their first time in about the 1950's. When she died she had her ashes scattered over her mother's grave in Festus, MO, & when Arthur died he was cremated and his ashes were scattered over Ruth's.

Ruth had a half-brother, John Schneider, of Festus & John was married to Dottie.

More About RUTH ARBOUGH:

Burial: 1980, Festus, MO (she was cremated)

Generation No. 2

2. JOHN AUGUST⁶ BEMIS (*LEV⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born March 16, 1899 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 10, 1977 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County. He married HULDA CHRISTINE SPEER December 21, 1926 in Illinois, daughter of ADOLPH SPEER and EMMA DAHNKE. She was born May 13, 1908 in Neoga, Illinois, Cumberland County, and died March 30, 1962 in Vallejo, CA Cemetery at Rockville, Solano County.

Children of JOHN BEMIS and HULDA SPEER are:

5. i. JOHN ARNOLD⁷ BEMIS, b. May 29, 1928, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County); d. December 23, 1997, Kauai, Hawaii.
6. ii. WALTER P. BEMIS, SR., b. July 10, 1930, Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County).

3. WILLIS⁶ BEMIS (*LEV⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born July 26, 1900 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died July 01, 1974 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County). He married EMMA H. BLIEVERNICHT December 22, 1924 in Dieterich, IL, Effingham County, daughter of HENRY BLIEVERNICHT and BERTHA FORTHMAN. She was born July 16, 1901 in Dieterich, IL, and died June 09, 1980 in Sigel, Illinois, Shelby County.

Child of WILLIS BEMIS and EMMA BLIEVERNICHT is:

- i. JAMES⁷ BEMIS, b. October 29, 1932, Sigel, Shelby Co. Illinois.

4. LEE (LEVI)⁶ BEMIS (*LEV⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born June 23, 1907. He married JEAN REECE August 25, 1932. She was born December 10, 1915.

Notes for LEE (LEVI) BEMIS:

Mr. Lee Bemis was baptized and confirmed in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sigel Illinois. Lee turned 92 on June 23, 1999, We wish him many more years.
Happy 92nd birthday in June 1999.

Lee and Jean had three children, Robert, William and Ruth Ann, both William and Ruth Ann experienced divorce.

Notes for JEAN REECE:

On December 10, 1999 Jean Reece Bemis will be a young woman of only 84 and we all wish many, many more happy and healthy birthdays (12-1999).

Children of LEE BEMIS and JEAN REECE are:

7. i. ROBERT⁷ BEMIS, b. October 07, 1933.
8. ii. WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, b. January 19, 1937.
9. iii. RUTH ANN BEMIS, b. December 15, 1941.

Generation No. 3

5. JOHN ARNOLD⁷ BEMIS (*JOHN AUGUST⁶, LEV⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born May 29, 1928 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County), and died December 23, 1997 in Kauai, Hawaii. He married MIDGE GRAHAM October 24, 1954 in Woodland, CA. She was born October 26, 1923 in Alabama, and died December 12, 1988 in Vallejo, California.

Child of JOHN BEMIS and MIDGE GRAHAM is:

- i. PATRICIA⁸ GRAHAM-DEXTER.

Notes for PATRICIA GRAHAM-DEXTER:

Patricia was the daughter of Midge Graham and John A. Bemis' stepdaughter.

6. WALTER P.⁷ BEMIS, SR. (*JOHN AUGUST⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born July 10, 1930 in Sigel, Illinois (Shelby County). He married ROSEMARY ALICE WILSON November 18, 1950 in Vallejo, California, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, daughter of ROBERT WILSON and EVELYN STROUD. She was born July 23, 1934 in Auburn, California (Placer County).

Children of WALTER BEMIS and ROSEMARY WILSON are:

- i. PAULA ANN⁸ BEMIS, b. September 11, 1951, San Francisco, CA at Letterman Army Hospital; m. KEVIN JOHN PEICHEL, May 18, 1996, Petaluma, California, Open Door Christian Church; b. January 12, 1960, Sleepy Eye Minnesota.

More About PAULA ANN BEMIS:

B.S. Degree: Chico State University, Chico, CA

More About KEVIN JOHN PEICHEL:

B.S. Psychology: May 08, 1998, North Central Bib. Coll. Minn. MN

Minor Study: May 08, 1998, Pastoral Studies, Cum Laude

- ii. LESLI JANEL BEMIS, b. April 09, 1954, Redding, California; m. WAYNE PEARSON, May 01, 1993, Santa Cruz, California, Pasatiempo, Country Club; b. June 16, 1951, California.

More About LESLI JANEL BEMIS:

Dentistry: Bryman College, Sacramento, CA

More About WAYNE PEARSON:

DDS Denistry: College of Pacific, San Francisco, CA

10. iii. WALTER PAUL BEMIS, JR., b. April 25, 1957, Oakland, CA, Alameda County, Providence Hospital.

7. ROBERT⁷ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born October 07, 1933. He married SHERRIE UNKNOWN. She was born January 20, 1936.

Children of ROBERT BEMIS and SHERRIE UNKNOWN are:

- i. RICHARD⁸ BEMIS, b. October 06, 1957.
- ii. RUSSELL BEMIS, b. January 10, 1960.
- iii. ROGER BEMIS, b. February 08, 1964.
- iv. CHERYL BEMIS, b. November 09, 1965; m. RODNEY HUNTER.

8. WILLIAM LEVI⁷ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born January 19, 1937. He married (1) TRUDY. He married (2) VICKY April 24, 1982.

Notes for WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS:

William Levi Bemis' first wife was Trudy, the mother of his children.

William Levi Bemis present wife is Vicky

Marriage Notes for WILLIAM BEMIS and TRUDY:

William Bemis married his present wife Vicky on April 24, 1982

Children of WILLIAM BEMIS and TRUDY are:

11. i. SANDRA TONSING⁸ BEMIS, b. April 15, 1960.
- ii. WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, JR., b. June 24, 1964.

Notes for WILLIAM LEVI BEMIS, JR.:

William Levi Bemis, Jr. was nicknamed "Stormy"

9. RUTH ANN⁷ BEMIS (*LEE (LEVI)⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born December 15, 1941. She married (1) DOUG DUFFEY. She married (2) BOBBY JONES.

Notes for RUTH ANN BEMIS:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann Bemis current husband, 5/15/2000, Bobby enjoys, plays, writes and records country music.

Notes for BOBBY JONES:

Bobby Jones is Ruth Ann's present husband.

Children of RUTH BEMIS and DOUG DUFFEY are:

- i. TERRI⁸ DUFFEY, b. February 07, 1961.
12. ii. MICHAEL DUFFEY, b. July 25, 1965.
- iii. CINDY DUFFEY, b. November 19, 1967.

Generation No. 4

10. WALTER PAUL⁸ BEMIS, JR. (*WALTER P.⁷, JOHN AUGUST⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born April 25, 1957 in Oakland, CA, Alameda County, Providence Hospital. He married ROBIN LYN BRANT January 03, 1981 in Mill Valley, CA, Marin County, 1st Baptist Church, daughter of KENNETH BRANT and MAUREEN CALLAGY. She was born June 17, 1960 in Greenbrae, California, Marin County.

More About WALTER PAUL BEMIS, JR.:

Attend. Seminary: Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, Mill V.

B. A. Degree: San Francisco State University

Ordained Pastor: Church of the Open Door, S. Rafael, CA

Children of WALTER BEMIS and ROBIN BRANT are:

- i. SAMUEL DAVID RILEY⁹ BEMIS, b. May 12, 1994, Springdale, Arkansas.
- ii. ISAAC JOSHUA CHRISTOPHER BEMIS, b. February 17, 2000, Syracuse, New York.

11. SANDRA TONSING⁸ BEMIS (*WILLIAM LEVI⁷, LEE (LEVI)⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born April 15, 1960. She married LOREN MICHAEL TONSING.

Children of SANDRA BEMIS and LOREN TONSING are:

- i. LOREN MICHAEL⁹ TONSING, JR., b. September 15, 1978.
- ii. STEVEN TONSING, b. September 12, 1980.
- iii. ERIC TONSING, b. September 20, 1982.

12. MICHAEL⁸ DUFFEY (*RUTH ANN⁷ BEMIS, LEE (LEVI)⁶, LEVI⁵, GEORGE W.⁴, GEORGE WASHINGTON³, EZRA H.², EDMUND¹*) was born July 25, 1965. He married PATTY.

Child of MICHAEL DUFFEY and PATTY is:

- i. JENNIFER⁹ DUFFEY, b. June 04, 1982.

MAP OF VIGO CO. — INDIAN.



☐ G.W. BEMS
W $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$
SEC. 31 T13N
R7W
APPROX.
80 ACRES

Bemis Family

Walter P. Bemis Sr.
6061 Dolores Drive
Rohnert Park CA 94928

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

June 21, 2000

I have been puzzling over your Bemises and Gibsons and think I have reached some conclusions, but as you mentioned, the evidence is circumstantial. First of all, I am sending copies of the marriages of George Sr. and Phebe and of George Jr. and Lucinda. The records are not very informative, but I thought you might like to have them. I believe I have found a probable father for Lucinda Richter. The 1860 Vigo county census lists a Henry Rickster with a 17-year-old daughter Lucinda on page 643, one page away from George and Phebe. I am also sending a copy of the 1858 Vigo County atlas, the earliest one we have. Note that the Bemis, Gibson, and Richter families were clustered in the sections where they appeared in 1874.

Some of the Clay County cemetery records have been published, including the ones for Posey Township. I soon found that Ezra and Lydia Bemis were buried in the Billtown Cemetery in northern Posey Township. A copy is enclosed. We don't have the Clay County will and probate records, but a search of those should indicate whether Ezra was George Sr.'s father. The Clay County Genealogical Society might be able to help you locate probate records. They have a web site at www.indiana.net/clay/ccgs.htm.

I am also sending copies from the 1830 and 1840 Indiana censuses. Even in 1840 George Bemis and John Gibson were listed on the same census page. I was also interested to see that Ezra was not the only Bemis in Clay County in 1840; there was a Henry in Van Buren Township.

The Gibsons were a lot harder to track down. I checked our various books of Vigo County cemetery records but did not find John and Susannah or any John the right age. I found a John who died in 1876 in Harpold Cemetery, Nevins Township, and thought that might have been John Jr., but unfortunately the age was unreadable. That is a problem with our cemetery books. The information was copied from the stones so any names on illegible stones were omitted.

I also checked the index to settled estates but did not find an estate settlement for a John who died around 1850. I did find some references to the John who died in 1876 in Probate Order Book 8. That John apparently had a son John Jr. who was named guardian of the other heirs: Ira M., Melissa E., Phebe J., Charles, Albert, Sarah, Anna, and Olley. I'm not sure whether that was the same John Gibson listed on the 1850 census.

I did find some peculiar records in the probate order books. In 1859 a John Gibson was named guardian of Lucinda Gibson, minor heir of George Stults. In 1863 he asked that the guardianship be dissolved as no monies had come into his hands and he was Lucinda's father and natural guardian. Later similar papers were filed for Lucinda, minor heir of Hannah Stults. I assume Lucinda inherited from her grandparents or other relatives. A Josiah Sults married an Allafor Gibson on 11 August 1839, but I did not find any references to George and Hannah.

Walter P. Bemis, Sr.
June 21, 2000
Page two

I also checked the index to deed records for the name Gibson but did not find any deeds that appeared to be settling up a John Gibson estate. However, I did find that in 1847 a John Gibson made a deed of gift to his children Adaline and John Jr. Of course, the 1850 census John had a daughter named Adaline and a son named John, but they would have been very young in 1847. I think you are probably right that the John on the 1850 census was the son of Susannah and an older John. There may have been a sister Adaline as well. No doubt you are also correct that Ezra Bemis was the father of George Sr.

Thank you for the \$10.00. It was more than enough for the enclosed copies and postage so I put the extra in the gift fund.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

From: Walter P Bemis <bonzaigolf@juno.com>
To: <NSHERRILL@vigo.lib.in.us>
Date: 6/16/00 4:04PM
Subject: Re: George W. Bemis

Hello Nancy,

Thank you for your e-note; no, I do not have the estate settlement. I would appreciate that documentation and anything that would pin down the death date of George W. Bemiss.

Bemiss was the spelling in the will as I probably mentioned; of interest in the settlement is the fact that my great great grandfather willed seven sixths of his estate. I do not know how you can do that but I hope some lawyer did not get a big share to correct the error.

Thank you very much for your continued assistance.

Walt Bemis

From: Nancy Sherrill
To: bonzaigolf@juno.com
Date: 6/16/00 3:25PM
Subject: George W. Bemis

Hello,

I am still working on your request for information on George W. Bemis, the Gibsons, and the Richters. I found George W. "Bemiss" listed in the index to settled estates with Ezra as administrator. The letters of administration were issued in Sept. 1874, and the estate was settled in Feb. 1876. That would imply that George did indeed die before the letters of administration were issued. You mentioned that you have George's will. Do you also have the estate settlement? If not, I will look for it in the probate order books.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

WALTER P. BEMIS, SR.

Nancy Sherrill, Genealogy Librarian
Vigo County Public Library
One Library Square
Terre Haute, IN 47807

May 16, 2000

SUBJECT: Helping to Find the Ancestors of My Great, Great Grandfather George W. Bemis, Sr. b 1812

Dear Nancy,

Thank you very much for your recent letter and Library Research Report; it was very helpful in the determination of the known and unknown. I am enclosing a cashier's check for \$10.00 to cover copies and or postage; please use any remainder, if any, as a donation or as you see fit.

I am returning your Research Report with comments that I hope will be helpful, and also your letter with a note.

My primary goal is still to find out who George Sr.'s parents were and where in Vermont he came from. Attached is some circumstantial evidence that involves Indiana that is attached as Exhibit A. Any suggestions on how to verify or eliminate would be appreciated; the information is offered on the possibility it could be helpful.

I have had trouble finding similar information on great, great, grandmother Phebe Gibson (Bemis) and great grandmother Lucinda E. Richter; the attached atlas map shines a new light. How did George Sr. find Phebe? Well at least the Jno. Gibson property adjoins the G. W. Bemis property in Sec. 31 of Nevins Twp. (See yellow markings)
1850 CENSUS INFORMATION, NEVINS TOWNSHIP:

228-86-86	Gibson	Susannah	Age 56
"	"	Susannah	16
"	"	Christopher	14
42-90-90	Gibson	John	Age 31
1	"	Lucinda J.	" 28
2	"	Adaline	" 6
3	"	John	" 4

No John + Susan Gibson in Markle Cem Rec
Withoit v 1 p 42 - Gibsons in
Nevins Cem, Nevins Twp, but not
Susannah + no John right age
John d. 1876 rest of stone
unreadable could be John b
1819

Gibson, James - settled Jan 1854
Gibson, John - Joshua W. Moore Adm -
Letters 6 Oct 1875 settled Nov 1878
1830 Sullivan p 386

Guardianships

Gibson (see Hannah Stacy) - John Gibson - Oct 1859
Gibson, John Jr - John Gibson
May 26, 1876 - Nov 1884
April 1865

① Saw the map last week for the first time.

Bemis, George W. - Ezra Bemis - Sept 1874 - Feb 1876 - Box 84
Bemis, William - Wm B Carrithers - Jan 1871 - Nov 1876 - Box 93
Probate Order Book 7, p 446
Probate Order Book 8 p 8485 Wm p 316, 694 + 529
Probate Order Book 9 - 0

Recd 5-22-00

Long 11 1/4" 11" = 1.95 Short 11" = .20 Single \$3.05
postage 1.76
4.81

Duplex 11" = .60

Large 1" = .30 5.19
10.00

Probate order Book 2 p 218 V - Lucinda - George Stultz
" " " 3 p 194 V - Delta (widow) John Gibson Jr.
" " " 4 p 335, 347 - Lucinda - Hannah Stacy - M. Melina E. Phibbs, Charles, Albert, Sarah, and
Probate Order Book 8 p 2, 305, 449 - 566 + 138 - 168 + 363

Gibson John + Lucinda Persons 21 Feb 1850
Sault, Joseph + Allafor (?) Gibson 11 Aug 1839

Nevins Twp. 1850 Census Continued

42-125-126	Beamas	George	Age 36	Farmer 1,000
1	"	Phebe Gibson	" 33	
2	"	Edmond	" 13	
3	"	George W.	" 12	- m Lucinda Richter 1864 BR 3 p 174
4	"	Wm.	" 9	
5	"	Wli (Eli) W.	" 7	
6	"	Mary	" 5	
7	"	Ezra	" 2	

Still to be born were: Catharina, Malinda & Samantha

Since the map properties are Jno. Gibson Sr. & Jno. Gibson Jr. and the 1850 Census shows two generations of Gibsons in Nevins Twp. it seems likely that the older Susannah was probably married to John or Jonathan Gibson and they were Phebe's parents (age 33 in 1850). It seems to me that this supposition is strengthened by probable son John, age 31, living on adjacent property and naming his first son John. Verification of these suspicions would be appreciated.

no John Gibson in Early Land Entries from Tract Book - in Vigo Co Will Abstract 1818-1860

Now about George Jr. finding Lucinda E. Richter, they were married in Vigo county in 1864. The evidence is not as strong but as you can see two Richter families lived ¾ of a mile north. No Richters show in in Vigo Co. 1850 Census Records, so they probably came later. NOW THIS IS A BIG STRETCH but in 1850 up in Wayne County IN, two men, probably twin brothers, both wagon makers, both 42 years old, one William married Lucinda Lewis the 2nd married Sarah _____, they had a daughter named Emily. "Lucinda Emily Richter" is just a wild guess. But if you can verify Lucinda Richter (Bemis') parents locally that would be a blessing. - Check 1840 Census

Richter, Henry D. Nevins Twp p 643 George W. Bemis p 644

Thank you very much for your efforts to date! May I make a contribution to Vigo County Genealogy?

Walt Bemis
WALT BEMIS

*1830 Census - No John or Jno Gibson in Vigo County
1840 Census - John Gibson
Vigo Co p 785
Beamus, Ezra H. - Clay Co p 659
" Henry " " p 651*

FAX 707-586-3040, OTHER PHONE: 586-3026 E-Mail bonzaigolf@juno.com

6061 DOLORES DRIVE ROHNERT PARK, CA 94928 707-586-3026

Circumstantial evidence that George W. Bemis, Sr. was from Whitingham, town & township in Windham County, VT, and that his grandfather was Edmund or Edmond Bemis, his grandmother was Abigail _____. They, Edmund & Abigail are known to have had at least four sons, all born in nearby Guilford, VT. Their sons: John b. July 20, 1780; Ezra b. Aug. 16, 1783; Edmund b. April 20, 1785; and Guilbert b. Oct. 11, 1792. Of these four sons, one, Ezra is known to have moved to Posey Township, Clay County, IN. Since Posey Twp. lies immediately south of G. W. Bemis property in Nevins Twp. they could have been walking neighbors. (I have not been able to verify that, but know his property is in Posey Twp. as verified by Clay Co. 1850, 1860 & 1870 Census Records.)

Vermont vital records from early through 1870:

EDMUND BEMIS m. ABIGAIL _____ he was born 1746, she was b. 1751; he died July 16, 1829 @ age 83, she d. Feb. 6, 1837, age 86; both died Whitingham, VT.

Re: above sons, from my limited information all could have been George Sr.'s father.

I have not checked early Census Records to see when Ezra H. (or N.) Bemis arrived in Clay County but have seen him in 1850, 1860 & 1870 records. In 1850 he still had some children at home: Ezra H. Bemiss age 66, Wife Lydia age 55, Lucinda age 17 and Alexander age 13.

ENUMERATED CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE:

- 1) George W. Bemis, Sr.'s farm was on the border (and beyond?) of Posey Twp. in Clay County.
- 2) George Sr. named his first son Edmond after his grandfather Edmund.
- 3) Ezra is generation ideal to be George Sr.'s father, i. e., he was 30 in 1812, however Lydia was only 17 and maybe not his first wife.
- 4) George Sr. named one of his sons Ezra and he was the one who remained with George on the farm, became George Sr.'s Executor and was favored in the will.
- 5) Ezra H. migrated from Vermont and took up farming near George Sr.'s Farm.

Can a relationship between George Sr. and Ezra H. Bemis be verified??

*Cemeteries of Posey Twp. Clay Co
p 5 - Bemis, Ezra H + Lydia Fuller*

*wills + probates?
Ezra was alive in
1850
not in Clay Co will
abstracts 1848-1867*

Bemis Family

Walter P. Bemis
6061 Dolores Drive
Rohnert Park CA 94928

May 3, 2000

The Vigo County Historical Society forwarded your letter of March 22 to the library.

I am enclosing a research report listing the sources I checked for your ancestor. As you can see, I did find a few references to him. His marriage and the marriages of some of his children were recorded here. However, I did not find any information which shed any light on his origins or the names of his parents.

I checked the 1820-1840 Indiana censuses, as you already had the later ones, and found a George Bemis in nearby Sullivan County. I thought that might have been your George, but the Sullivan County Illustrated Atlas, published about 1899, still listed a G. W. Bemis in Jackson Township. Your George was in Vigo County long before that but, of course, there is no way to know whether the G. W. on the atlas was the same man who was listed on the census.

Did the entire Bemis family move to Illinois? I didn't find them in our books of cemetery records. I found marriages for George Sr., George W., a William M., a Mary E., a Malinda, and a Samantha but all took place prior to 1882, and therefore do not give biographical information on the bride and groom. If you would like to have copies, our charge is 15¢ per page, plus postage.

Nancy Sherrill
Genealogy Librarian

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Special Collections

VIGO CO. LIBRARY RESEARCH REPORT

The item(s) circled below indicate the record(s) searched
for the surnames of: Bemis: George W. + Phebe (Gibson)

in response to your request of 3-22-00.

1. Miscellaneous Card File:

Did not find _____ Found _____

2. Surname File:

Did not find ✓ Found _____

3. Vigo County, Indiana, Index of Names of Persons and of Firms
(in the county histories)

Did not find George Found Alva + Henry Bemis in 1874 Vigo
County Atlas

4. Vigo County, Indiana, Marriage Licenses from 1818 to 1850:

Did not find _____ Found Bemus, George + Phebe Gibson
29 Nov 1835

5. W.P.A. Index to Marriage Record, Vigo County, 1840-1920:

Did not find _____ Found Vol 1 p 124 + 125 - Several Bemis/
Bemiss marriages including some who seem to have been George's
children

6. W.P.A. Index to Death Record, Vigo County, 1882-1920:

Did not find _____ Found Vol 1 p 53 + 54 Bemis, Barbara d. 1886 at
age 25; Bemis, David d. 1900 at age 3 + Nora d. 1809 at age 1

7. Cemetery Records of Vigo County, Including All Born Prior to
1830 That Lived to Maturity:

Did not find George Found Bemis, Alva E. b. 16 Dec 1816 d. 11 Jan
1909 + Abigail (McBride) b. 6 May 1817 d. 1 Jan 1877 - Christian Church
Cemetery

8. Cemeteries, Vigo County, Indiana (4 vols.):

Did not find George Found Other Bemises Vol 1 p 16, 41 + 69
Vol 3 p 9

9. Woodlawn Cemetery, Terre Haute, Vigo County IN, Index of
Burials Vol. 1 1839-1899 vol. 2 1900-March 1983:

Did not find ✓ Found _____

10. Census Index for the year 1820-1840:

Did not find _____ Found 1820 - No Bemis

1830 - Beomas, Erak - Crawford Cop 470

Bemis, George - Sullivan Cop 386

1840 - Bemus, Eli - Parte Cop 356

Beomis, Elizabeth - Clark Cop 465

Other: (also check other side)

Index to Names of Persons and of Firms, " George - Vigo Cop 795

Sullivan County - G.W. Bemus Hist. of Jackson Twp. p. 13

Illustrated Atlas 033 (Index)

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE
Special Collections

History of Jackson Township p 13 - G.W. Bemis listed in northwest corner of Dist. #1

Illustrated Atlas shows G.W. Bemis in Section 2 of Jackson Township. However this atlas was published about 1899. 1858 map of Vigo County shows a G.W. Bemis in Newing Township, Section 31

Recd 4-25-00 from Hist Soc

WALTER P. BEMIS

WABASH VALLEY HISTORIC SOCIETY
1411 South Sixth Street
Terre Haute, IN 47802 - 1114

March 22, 2000

DO NOT REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE
Special Collections

Dear Historians,

Subject: Information on My Great Great Grandfather George W. Bemis, Sr., Born in Vermont in 1812, Moved to IN by 1835, Maybe Much Earlier

George W. Sr. was a farmer in Nevins or Neevins Township within the Terre Haute Post Office area. According to Vigo County US Census Records George Sr., wife and 9 children are noted in Records of 1850, 1860 and 1870.

The family lived on a substantial farm (re. Census Records) and hopefully they left something in the way of an historical foot print behind. I am especially interested in George W. Bemis, Sr.'s place of birth and the names of his parents, I am also interested in the nature of his farm and life in Vigo County.

Some verification of George Sr.'s origins could be the last step in completing 14 generations of our family, back to the early 1600's in Watertown, MA; I will be happy to share this Bemis genealogy, on completion, if you wish.

Any information would be appreciated; I will be happy to reimburse any postage or copying expense and make a contribution to your museum.

Sincerely,

Walt Bemis

WALT BEMIS

6061 DOLORES DRIVE ROHNERT PARK, CA 94928 707-586-3040

Descendants of George W. Bemis, Sr.

Generation No. 1

1. GEORGE W.¹ BEMIS, SR. was born 1812 in Vermont. He married PHEBE GIBSON December 22, 1835 in Indiana. She was born 1816 in Kentucky. *in Vigo Co*

Notes for GEORGE W. BEMIS, SR.:

1860 Census for Vigo County indicates he lived near Terre Haute, Indiana and was operating a substantial farm.

Indiana Marriage Records indicate that George W. "Bemus" married Phebe Gibson on 12-22-1835 in Indiana (no location given). The misspelling can probably be ignored since both the timing of marriage and his known wife check out. The junior George W. Bemis was born May 6, 1838.

Children of GEORGE BEMIS and PHEBE GIBSON are:

- i. EDMOND² BEMIS, b. 1837. *IV*

Notes for EDMOND BEMIS:

According to the Vigo County, Indiana 1850 census records, Edmond was 13 years old, it is deemed probable that he was the eldest child since his parents were married Dec. 22, 1835. Also, other Bemis ancestors commonly spell the name Edmund, Edmond was probably just the Census T. way of spelling it.

2. *✓* ii. GEORGE W. BEMIS, b. May 06, 1838, Indiana (Per Levi Bemis Statement In Silas' Death Cert.); d. September 12, 1898, Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County.
✓ iii. WILLIAM BEMIS, b. 1840, Indiana.
o iv. ELI W. BEMIS, b. 1842, Indiana.
o v. EZRA BEMIS, b. 1847, Indiana.
✓ vi. MARY BEMIS, b. 1849, Indiana.
o vii. CATHARINA BEMIS, b. 1850, Indiana.
✓ viii. MELINDA C. BEMIS, b. 1853, Indiana.
✓ ix. SAMANTHA BEMIS, b. 1856, Indiana.

DO NOT REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE
Special Collections

Generation No. 2

JR
2. GEORGE W.² BEMIS (*GEORGE W.¹*) was born May 06, 1838 in Indiana (Per Levi Bemis Statement In Silas' Death Cert.), and died September 12, 1898 in Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County. He married LUCINDA E. RICHTER March 20, 1864 in Vigo County, Indiana (Terre Haute is County Seat). She was born June 28, 1843 in Indiana (Per Levi Bemis Statement), and died February 11, 1906 in Shelby Co., Illinois.

Notes for GEORGE W. BEMIS: *JR*

Both George W. Bemis and Lucinda E. Richter resided in Indiana in 1860 according to the 1860 Census Records.

Silas' Death Certificate (May 16, 1920) confirms that his father and mother were George Bemis and Lucinda Richter. Signed "Informant" was Levi Bemis, Shelby Co.

Mrs. Phyllis Selby of Kokomo, IN furnished birthdate, not yet verified but consistent with 1860 Vigo Co. Ind. Census, she also furnished his death date and burial information which is probable but not yet cross confirmed on this date of 11-30-99.

More About GEORGE W. BEMIS: *JR*

Burial: Abt. September 15, 1898, Greenup, IL Greenup Cemetery, Cumberland County

Notes for LUCINDA E. RICHTER: